



PATENT  
29038/10006

365<sup>2</sup>  
NT  
006  
12/18/01  
#9

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT  
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

### Application of:

THOMAS et al.

Serial No: 09/486,280

Filed: February 24, 2000

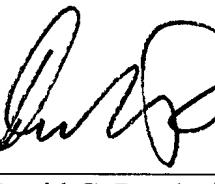
For: MULTI-PURPOSE VESSEL  
AND METHOD FOR  
RECOVERING, STORING AND/OR  
TRANSPORTING AND OFF-  
LOADING MATERIAL IN A  
DREDGING OPERATION

Group Art Unit: 3652

Examiner: J. Krizek

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this date:

**October 19, 2001**



---

David C. Read  
Registration No. 39,811  
Attorney For Applicants



## **RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement mailed September 25, 2001, Applicant hereby elects to prosecute claims 1 through 36, drawn to multi-purpose vessels.

This election is made without traverse and without prejudice to pursuing claims 37-45, drawn to methods of handling material in waterways, in a possible divisional application.

Respectfully submitted,

MARSHALL, GERSTEIN & BORUN  
6300 Sears Tower  
233 S. Wacker Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60606  
Tel.: (312) 474-6300

By:

David C. Read  
Reg. No. 39,81

October 19, 2001